

HOLY REDEEMER AND IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
COLLABORATIVE PARISHES

SERVING MERRIMAC, NEWBURY, NEWBURYPORT, AND WEST NEWBURY

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 7, 2021

hricatholic.org

All Are Welcome

“Simon’s mother-in-law lay sick with a fever. They immediately told him about her. . . .



He approached, grasped her hand, and helped her up. Then the fever left her and she waited on them.”

(Mk 1:30-31)



Holy Redeemer Immaculate Conception Collaborative

serving Merrimac, Newbury, Newburyport & West Newbury

"Come all you who are thirsty, come to the waters..."

St. Ann

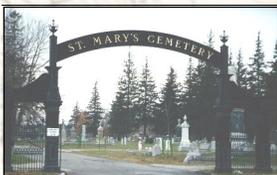
Church: 300 Main St., W. Newbury 01985
Rectory: 46 Maple St., W. Newbury 01985
Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

Nativity

Parish offices and church:
4 Green St., Merrimac 01860
Office Hours: By appointment
Phone: 978-346-8604
Email: holyredeemer@verizon.net

Immaculate Conception

Parish, church, rectory, and offices:
42 Green St., Newburyport 01950
Office Hours: M-F 9:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Phone: 978-462-2724
Fax: 978-234-7399
Email: info@newburyportcatholic.org



St. Mary's Cemetery

36 Storey Avenue,
Newburyport 01950

Immaculate Conception School

1 Washington Street, Newburyport 01950, K-grade 8,
Mrs. Joan Sullivan, Principal, Phone: 978-465-7780,
Fax: 978-234-7331, www.icsnewburyport.com



Collaborative Staff

Pastor

Rev. Timothy Harrison,
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604
info@newburyportcatholic.org,
holyredeemer@verizon.net

Senior Priests in Residence

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Rev. George E. Morin
Rev. Charles Stanley
978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604

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Deacon John Moranski
978-432-1443, jmoranski51@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul

St. Vincent de Paul Society at
Holy Redeemer
978-346-8604 x 8
hsvdp300@gmail.com

St. Vincent de Paul Society at
Immaculate Conception
978-518-0728

St Mary's Cemetery

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Kathy Peavey, HR Vocalist
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978-360-8756

Donna Postle, IC Music Ministry Director
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donnapostle233@gmail.com

Tim Richard, IC organist
trichard23@gmail.com

Steve Swochak, IC Music Coordinator
978-462-2855
swochak@netzero.com

Online:

Website: www.hriccatholic.org

 [@HRICatholic](https://twitter.com/HRICatholic)

 [hriccatholic](https://www.instagram.com/hriccatholic)

 [Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception
Collaborative Parishes](https://www.facebook.com/HolyRedeemer-ImmaculateConceptionCollaborativeParishes)

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Mass Schedule

Saturday (2/6)

4:00pm **IC Live-Stream** *James B. Lefebre*
(Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Dow)

Sunday (2/7)

8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Morin & Deacon Moranski)
9:30am **St. Ann** (Fr. Harrison)
11:30am **IC** *Robert Colby, Jack Ronan, Nancy Forti, the Baikewicz & Bogue Families*
(Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Dow)

Monday (2/8)

9:00am **IC** (Fr. Harrison)

Tuesday (2/9)

9:00am **IC** (Fr. Harrison)

Wednesday (2/10)

9:00am **IC** (Fr. McLaughlin)

Thursday (2/11)

9:00am **IC** (Fr. Morin)

Friday (2/12)

9:00am **IC** (Fr. Harrison)

Saturday (2/13)

4:00pm **IC Live-Stream** *Doris M. Evey, Michael & Lucia Lomdardo* (Fr. Harrison)

Sunday (2/14)

8:00am **Nativity** (Fr. Harrison & Deacon Moranski)
9:30am **St. Ann** (Fr. McLaughlin & Deacon Dow)
11:30am **IC** *John Donovan* (Fr. Morin)

In your prayers, please remember Thomas Melican, Jr. and all the faithful departed.

IC—Immaculate Conception, Newburyport

Nativity—Merrimac

St. Ann—West Newbury

Saturday Live-Stream Vigil Masses are broadcast online through [Facebook](#).

 Find us on Facebook: [Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative Parishes](#)

Watch Mass on Facebook

To watch our Saturday live-stream Masses:

1. Go to our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/hricatholic/>) at the appointed time. If you don't have a Facebook page, you can still watch the live stream from your computer, smartphone, or tablet using the above link.
2. Click the "videos" link on the page.
3. The **LIVE** video should be the first one on the list.

Prayers for the Sick

May the comfort and healing of Christ embrace all in our Collaborative who are suffering from illness, especially:

Dan Bedard
Priscilla Brown
Brett Burkinshaw
Joe Messina
Vincent Oberhofer

Mary Shachok
Ruth Sullivan
Ron Sylvester
Michael Tucker

From the Pastor

Dear Parishioners,

This weekend's Gospel passage presents Jesus' healing ministry as a powerful sign of the already-present Kingdom of God. Where there was illness or suffering, Jesus' healing touch brought relief and deliverance. He was quite meticulous in His methodology and approach, not permitting the evil spirits to speak and possibly distract people from what was happening. It was Jesus' initiative, and nothing would be allowed to get in the way.



Because illness and physical suffering were often seen as signs that a person (or their family) had sinned or displeased God in some way, healing was a sure indication of God's blessing and favor. So, concurrent with Jesus' message of repentance and turning away from sin, was this potent experience of His healing ministry.

Laced in the midst of this story is a curious detail that we might be tempted today to dismiss as sexist and unimportant. When Jesus heals Simon's mother-in-law, the very first thing she does is get up and wait on them! How awful, we might say from today's perspective! The poor woman was sick in bed and now that she's feeling a little better, the men in the room (including Jesus) let her wait on them?! Can't they get a cup of water on their own? How insensitive, we might think!

However, to the first century hearer of this Gospel, something else comes into focus: the healing was complete and total. It's not that Simon's mother-in-law was still weak and woozy from having been sick, but that she was completely restored. So much so, that she resumed her proper and expected role in the household. She was restored to her former, honorable, position. There would have been joy in her heart to get back to work, to be a productive member of the family once again. In fact, the whole family was healed by this restoration of her to her proper place and role. She might have been the only one who knew how to make bread or cook in the family! Everyone had been suffering alongside her, while she was sidelined and unable to do the things that everyone relied on for healthy family life. There was a wholeness to Jesus' healing ministry that touched not only the sick or afflicted, but the entire family and community.

This is a lens for us to see the fuller picture of Jesus' healing ministry: it is for everyone! It reaches far beyond

(Continued on page 4)

Daily Masses

We are now offering Daily Masses Monday–Friday at 9:00 a.m. at IC, Newburyport. No advanced signup required.

We are still in need of volunteers to help with Daily Mass for St. Ann and Nativity on Mondays and Fridays respectively. Until we gather more volunteers to help with these churches, we cannot offer Daily Mass there. If you are able to help with any of these HR Masses, please contact Sue Noyes susanjnoyes@gmail.com to learn more.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

(Continued from page 3)

the confines of a sick bed and affects everyone. Whatever exists as an obstacle to a reconciled and corrected relationship with God will be removed and fixed. Wholeness and a restoration of harmony is the goal. God's plan is bigger than we might first think! No wonder Jesus didn't want the evil spirits to spill the beans! His ministry was to go far beyond Galilee and be offered for all humanity in all times and places. The scope of what God has accomplished through Jesus' earthly ministry culminating in His Passion, Death, and Resurrection is beyond measure. It truly will be a new Heaven and a new Earth...all starting with a simple approach and the grasp of a hand.

May these snowy days of winter be filled with the warmth of Christ's healing presence in our midst.

Fr. Timothy Harrison, Pastor

Rosary Rally

Join your brothers and sisters in Christ outdoors on Sunday, February 21, for a Rosary Rally in Merrimac Square.

This rally is in honor of Saints Jacinta and Francisco whom Our Lady appeared to as small children in 1917.

The Fatima children would seize every opportunity to offer prayers and make sacrifices for poor sinners that without these sacrifices would go to Hell.

After this example of these small children, will you honor these saints?

Will you brave the cold and pray for sinners in imitation of the sacrifices of Jacinta and Francisco?

Join us Sunday, February 21, 1:00pm in Merrimac Square.

Register to Attend Mass

To register to attend an in-person Mass celebrated in our Collaborative, go to the "Attend a Mass" section on our website: www.hriccatholic.org to link to the signup page. At this time **a reservation is required** to attend a live Mass for capacity limits and contact tracing purposes.

Call the offices at (978) 462-2724 for IC or (978) 346-8604 for HR if you have questions or need assistance making a reservation.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

Are you feeling isolated and alone during the pandemic?



Neighbors Helping Neighbors volunteers would love to give you a call to chat or send you a note. We know that this is a difficult period for everyone, particularly to those who live alone. Let us help brighten your day! If you would be interested in receiving a call or note, please call the HRIC offices at 978-462-2724 or 978-346-8604 and leave your name, address, and phone number and we will reach out to you.

At-Home Lenten Retreat

**Jesus, Wounded Healer Perfected Through Suffering:
Exploring the transforming role of suffering in
Jesus' life and your own**

Scripture will guide our retreat. "Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he suffered; and when he was made perfect, he became the source of eternal life for all who obey him." Heb. 5: 8-9

Jesus the Christ, our wounded healer, calls to us in this time of suffering. We are wounded and desire healing. Following Jesus through our Lenten retreat we will stay awake with Jesus as he is wounded and suffers for us. We will give thanks for his great love and salvific suffering as we explore our own suffering and its transforming power. Responding to his love, we may allow Jesus to enter through our own wounds, heal us with his saving love, and be transformed. We, too, may become wounded healers to our world as His healing love flows through us to others.



Retreat packet materials will support learning through Scripture and offer teachings of Richard Rhor, Cynthia Bourgeault, Marcus Borg, Joan Chittister, Paul Coutinho SJ, Carlo Charrette, St. Ignatius of Loyola, Julien of Norwich, Henri Nouwen, Pope John Paul II, and others as well as poems, prayers, and questions for reflection. Ponder and share with God what touches you. Stay awake and open to God's response. Bring your experiences of God to spiritual direction.

Connecting with the Christ's many forms of suffering through prayer, reading, reflection, group sharing, and individual spiritual direction you will be aided to name and explore your own experiences of suffering and desire for healing. You will have opportunities for three individual one-hour sessions of spiritual direction by phone or zoom scheduled at your convenience.

This retreat is designed to be affordable, convenient, and safe. It will begin with a group Zoom meeting to discuss the retreat's theme and prepare you for our Lenten journey. The fourth week Zoom meeting will include teaching and time to share reflections and responses to material read and support each other as the retreat continues. The closing session will provide an opportunity for you to share the fruits of retreat, continued desires, and questions.

Opening Session: (held twice for your convenience)
Tuesday, February 23, 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

OR

Friday February 26, 6:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m.

4th and 6th week's Sessions: Dates to be determined by group

Spiritual Director: Elizabeth McCarthy, Certified Spiritual Director.

Call (978) 462-7483 to register or for additional information.

Suggested Donation: \$90.00

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Community Service of Newburyport

Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done.

Proverbs 19:17

**Thank you on behalf of
Community Service of Newburyport, Inc.**

Community Service of Newburyport is a “privately funded 501(c)(3) social service organization whose mission is to improve the quality of life for individuals, children, and families in need from Newburyport, Newbury, and West Newbury, by providing economic assistance in a caring environment”. Located at St. Paul’s Church in Newburyport, they were forced to close during the pandemic and refer their clients to other organizations in the area for assistance.

In the fall of 2020 the Collaborative, through the *Neighbors Helping Neighbors* program, was in touch with Community Service to explore ways to help during its closure and in anticipation of its re-opening in 2021.

Throughout December and January, volunteer shoppers collected requested volumes of personal hygiene items for individual packaging. Our volunteer shoppers included:

Kathy Egmont, Meg Moore, Mary Parsons, Anne Puricelli, Pat Temple, Maluli Vidal, and Mary and Mike Zerigian

Thanks to the generosity of Immaculate Conception Parish and Pastor Tim Harrison, over 140 individual packages were assembled by Kathy Egmont, Jan Kolman, Meg and Violet Moore, and Pat and Jon Temple and delivered to the Executive Director of Community Service, Ray Pillidge, on January 18, 2021. Ray was overwhelmed with the volume of supplies collected and extremely grateful. We look forward to a continuing relationship with Ray and his organization in support of those in need in our community.

Anyone interested in learning more about Community Service of Newburyport can visit their website at communityserviceofnewburyport.com.

Blessings to all for your generosity and efforts.

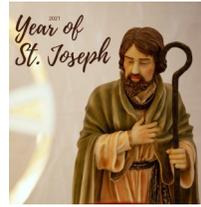
Mass Scripture Readings

The Scripture passages read each day at Mass can be found online at bible.usccb.org the site of the United States Council of Catholic Bishops. There you will find the daily readings, be able to listen to them on podcast, and have the opportunity to watch a short reflection piece on the readings offered by a Catholic priest, deacon, religious, or lay person.

Praying with the Scriptures daily is a wonderful way to deepen our relationship with Our Lord and to discern how best to serve God as an intentional disciple of Christ. Please access the HRIC webpage to learn about Lectio Divina as a way of praying the Scriptures. Go to www.HRICatholic.org; click on HRIC Pastoral Plan; and then click on Lectio Divina.

(The free App “Laudate” allows you to access the daily Scripture readings on your cell phone.)

Year of St. Joseph



Pope Francis said that during the coronavirus pandemic he has been reflecting on St. Joseph who, just like so many of us have made unseen sacrifices during the pandemic to protect others, St. Joseph quietly protected and cared for Mary and Jesus.

“Each of us can discover in Joseph—the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence—an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble,” the pope wrote. He also said he wanted to highlight St. Joseph’s role as a father who served his family with charity and humility, adding, “Our world today needs fathers.” (CNA, 12-10-20)

To learn more about the Year of St. Joseph and resources available to you, visit bostoncatholic.org/yearofstjoseph.

Centering Prayer and Lectio Divina

We welcome all members of our Collaborative community to join us each Wednesday 6:00–7:00 p.m. via Zoom for 30 minutes of Centering Prayer, silently resting in God and surrendering and assenting to God’s presence and action in our lives. This ancient prayer practice opens our minds and hearts to hear God’s words as we continue by reading Sacred Scripture in group Lectio Divina.

For the next 30 minutes we listen to God’s words, ponder and share what we hear the Lord saying to us here and now, and contemplate God’s message to us and let it guide our choices and actions. Both practices strengthen our faith and reliance on God and deepen our personal relationship with God. For more information, please call Elizabeth McCarthy, 978- 462-7483.

Winter Weather Mass Cancellations



Due to the hazards of travel and the safety of priests and parishioners alike, this winter daily Mass within the Collaborative will be cancelled if Immaculate Conception School, Pentucket Regional, or Newburyport Public Schools **in-person classes** are cancelled or delayed because of inclement weather. WBZ Channel 4 will have the updated school cancellation information. It is also available on their website at boston.cbslocal.com and we will make every effort to keep our own website and social media updated as well.

In severe situations, it may also be necessary for safety reasons to cancel weekend Masses. Again, please watch WBZ or consult the websites and/or social media for cancellation information.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. In all things, God gave us the gifts of wisdom, reason, and prudence. Let’s use them wisely this winter and exercise sound judgment when considering going out in severe weather.

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

Celebrating Black History Month

“There is always light, if only we’re brave enough to see it. If only we’re brave enough to be it.”

“The Hill We Climb” Inaugural poem
by Amanda Gorman

This final line from the inaugural poem serves as a reminder of our baptismal call as we celebrate a young Catholic woman, Amanda Gorman, in honor of Black History Month. Amanda made history as the youngest National Youth Poet Laureate to offer a recitation at an inauguration. She is a native of Los Angeles, California and a member of St. Brigid’s Catholic Church there. She is also scheduled to speak and offer a poem at this weekend’s Super Bowl.”

Watch for more stories this month as we celebrate black Catholic saints and servants and their rich contributions to our faith throughout history.

Collaborative Pastoral Council

The Pastoral Council for the Holy Redeemer - Immaculate Conception Collaborative serves in an advisory capacity to the Pastor on matters of importance to the Collaborative.

Members of the Pastoral Council

Father Tim Harrison, Chair
Jim Williamson, Vice Chair
Mary Bragg, Secretary

Chris Eagan
Amy Friend
Aaron Giard
Paula Higgins
Deacon John Moranski
Lucia Parker
Carol Robertson
Jonathan Temple
Pat Temple

Kathy Betz
Beth Brennan
Sue Coppinger
Steve DiCamillo
Deacon Paul Dow

Women at the Well Bible Study

We Are Meeting Virtually

Please email HRICWomenAtTheWell@gmail.com to join us.

*Do you ever feel like there must be something more than your day-to-day routine?
Looking for a way to connect to other faith-centered women in the midst of a busy work, social
or parenting life? Or maybe you're just searching for a new way to regularly meet
and connect with Jesus.*

WELCOME TO A COMMUNITY FULL OF

women just like you

Wherever you are in your faith journey, join us as we meet weekly for *Blessed Is She* bible study, community and friendship as we grow together in Christ.

WE ARE MEETING VIRTUALLY
DURING THE PANDEMIC
EMAIL US TO JOIN!

MONDAY NIGHTS
6:30PM-8PM
ALL ARE WELCOME!

please email HRICWomenAtTheWell@gmail.com if you have any questions

Prayer to Overcome Racism

Mary, friend and mother to all,
through your Son, God has found a way
to unite himself to every human being,
called to be one people,
sisters and brothers to each other.

We ask for your help in calling on
your Son,
seeking forgiveness for the times when
we have failed to love and respect
one another.

We ask for your help in obtaining from
your Son
the grace we need to overcome the evil
of racism
and to build a just society.

We ask for your help in following your Son,
so that prejudice and animosity
will no longer infect our minds or hearts
but will be replaced with a love
that respects
the dignity of each person.

Mother of the Church,
the Spirit of your Son Jesus
warms our hearts:
pray for us.
Amen.

www.usccb.org/racism

Word On Fire Engage

Everyone in our Collaborative now has free access to the entire Word on Fire digital video library.

You can watch any of Bishop Barron’s films or study programs whenever you want, on any device!

To access the resources of Word on Fire’s ENGAGE, please register at flocknote.com/hriccollaborative or by texting **HRIC** to **84576**. Once you register, you will have access to ENGAGE.

We are excited to bring ENGAGE to you. Along with **FORMED** (formed.org), we now have a treasure chest of online faith formation resources available free to all in the HRIC community. We encourage you to take full advantage of these resources.

Follow Us on Instagram
[HRICCatholic](https://www.instagram.com/HRICCatholic)



Questions of the Week



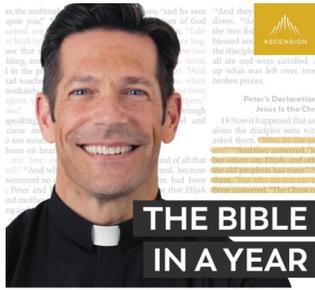
Adult: In the Gospel, Jesus finds time for prayer in the midst of a very busy schedule. How do you make space for prayer in the midst of your very busy schedule? Is this something that you struggle with?

Child: When do you make time to be quiet for a few minutes to talk to God as Jesus did?

COLLABORATIVE NEWS

The Bible in a Year

Have you had a chance to listen to this podcast?



The Bible in a Year podcast, hosted by Fr. Mike Schmitz, walks you through the entire Bible in 365 episodes, providing commentary, reflection, and prayer along the way. It is currently the top podcast in the country on Apple Podcasts.

With this podcast, you will read the Bible in a year, learn how all the pieces of the Bible fit together to tell an amazing story, become more confident in your understanding of Scripture, experience the power of God's Word in your daily routine, and begin to see the world through the lens of Scripture. Each daily episode is about 20 minutes long.

Don't worry if you haven't started yet, you can jump in anytime and even listen to past episodes. Visit online at <https://media.ascensionpress.com/all-bible-in-a-year-episodes/> to learn more or search for "The Bible in a Year" in Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, Google Podcasts, or Amazon Podcasts.

Virtual Rosary



Join us for recitation of the rosary live on Facebook twice every week. Pray along with us and add your intentions in the comments on Facebook. www.facebook.com/hriccatholic/

Tuesdays and Thursdays 8:30 a.m.

Confessions

We are offering face-to-face, individual Confessions by appointment only. These will take place outdoors. The weather must be amenable for the appointment; both priest and penitent **must wear a face mask** and practice proper social-distancing during the Confession.

For more information or to schedule a time for Confession, please contact our Collaborative Office at (978) 346-8604 or (978) 462-2724.

Knights of Columbus



The Knights of Columbus Newburyport Council 231 was founded in 1897. If you are interested in helping those in need, serving our parish, growing in faith, obtaining exclusive access to top-rated insurance protections for you or your family, or just connecting with other Catholic men, then the Knights of Columbus is the organization for you.

We welcome new members to this long-standing group of Catholic men. Nationally, the Knights of Columbus have recently moved from in-person initiation to an online only membership process. Please visit kofc.org to become a member today.

IC PARISH

Immaculate Conception School

Immaculate Conception School received an award from Catholic Purchasing Services (CPS) in honor of Catholic Schools Week. The Catholic Schools Week celebration program includes the announcement of the first-ever CPS Leadership Award winners given to four (4) well deserving Catholic schools in the United States.

This award was developed to acknowledge schools who have demonstrated strength, resilience, and true leadership over the past year during which our education system has faced unprecedented challenges.

2021 CPS Leadership Award recipients are:

- Holy Name High School—Parma Heights, OH
- **Immaculate Conception School—Newburyport, MA**
- St. Louis School—Austin, TX
- St. Therese School—Albuquerque, NM

Immaculate Conception School collaborated with CPS and KI Furniture to transform the Middle School into 21st century learning environments with the integration of flexible furniture. Additionally, interactive technology and Chrome devices enhance the educational experience for students to create a comfortable, dynamic environment where collaboration, student voice and empowerment are fostered.



IC Haiti

If you would like to contribute to IC Haiti, please mail checks to **IC Haiti, 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA, 01950. Checks should be made out to "IC Haiti."**

We are grateful for your continued generosity during the pandemic. May the Lord continue to bless our ongoing efforts to support the people of Haiti.

We thank Him for offering us a ministry of service to our brothers and sisters in Christ.

IMMACULATE CONCEPTION PARISH

IC Offertory Collection

IC Offertory, Jan. 31 **\$1,283.00**
Mailed-in Offertory, week ending Jan. 29 **\$3,533.00**

If you would like to mail in your envelopes, send them to

Immaculate Conception Parish
42 Green Street
Newburyport MA 01950

You can also sign up for online giving. Visit our website to learn more: hriccatholic.org/IC-Online-Giving.

IC Grand Annual Goal \$85,000
To Date \$103,075.00



\$85,000
\$50,000
\$30,000
\$10,000

Congratulations! Immaculate Conception has surpassed its goal. Thank you to all who contributed to our Grand Annual collection. Contributions are still being accepted.

IC Online Giving

Immaculate Conception Parish provides Online Giving—a convenient and safe way to make a one-time or a recurring (weekly) donation.

Getting started is easy—you need to be a registered member of Immaculate Conception Parish community. Parish registration forms are available in the foyer of the church or at the parish office.

Once you register with the parish, or if you are already a registered parishioner, visit our website, hriccatholic.org and click the “Links” tab, then click on “IC Parish Online Giving” to get to the site. There are four different funds you can choose to contribute to.

If you manage your other bills online, why not give to your Church online? It is safe and secure and you get to decide exactly when and to where your gift will be made.

Any questions? Contact Linda Temple, IC Administrative Assistant 978-462-2724 x7404.

IC St. Vincent de Paul



If you know someone living in Newbury/Newburyport who needs assistance, please suggest that they call our **help line 978-518-0728**. We are still ready to assist.

To donate, visit our website and donate online at www.svdPnewburyport.org, drop your donation (checks payable to “SvdP of Newburyport.”) into the collection box at Mass, or mail it to the parish office at 42 Green Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.

Breaking Bread to-go Meal

Tuesday evenings • **take out only** • 4:30 p. m. at the entrance to the IC Parish Center. All are welcome!

IC Faith Formation

All Faith Formation schedules and Registration Forms are posted on our website at www.hriccatholic.org/Faith-Formation.

School Year Programs

Program information for those students entering Grades K–8 can be found on our parish website. **Registration forms are also available.** As always, please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 ext. 7405) or email agiard@newburyportcatholic.org should you have any questions.

Confirmation

Confirmation prep classes for both Grades 9 and 10 have begun. Information regarding these sessions can be found on the Collaborative website: hriccatholic.org along with registration forms. Should you have any questions, please contact the Faith Formation office.

Baptism

Please call the Collaborative Offices (978-462-2724) for further information regarding the celebration of the sacrament.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Dates have been set for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Please be aware that we **are not yet** accepting registrations as COVID restrictions keep us in flux. As always, please reach out to the Faith Formation office with any questions you might have.

First Reconciliation:

IC: Friday, April 30, 3:00 p.m.
Friday, May 7, 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 8, 11:00 a.m.

Nativity: Saturday, May 1, 11:00 a.m.

First Eucharist:

IC: Monday, June 7, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 12, 11:00 a.m.
Monday, June 14, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 19, 1:00 p.m.

Nativity: Saturday, June 5, 11:00 a.m.

For those families whose child was prepared for First Eucharist last spring, but has yet to receive the sacrament, arrangements can still be made for your family. We would be happy to help you with this.

St. Mary's Cemetery

Immaculate Conception Parish owns and operates a private cemetery located on Storey Avenue. St. Mary's Cemetery is a 35-acre cemetery with consecrated grounds that provides tranquility and peacefulness at those difficult times that we all are faced with. Please visit the parish cemetery and you will find the cemetery to be well-managed and maintained. Cemetery plots are available for full-body and cremated remains burials in any denomination. Call Joseph Viel, Superintendent, at 978-208-0266 to schedule an appointment.

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Once you register with the parish, or if you are already a registered parishioner, visit our website, hriccatholic.org and click the “Links” tab, then click on “HR Parish Online Giving” to get to the site. There are three different funds you can contribute to: Offertory, Monthly, and Grand Annual.

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Questions? Contact Linda Temple, HRIC Administrative Assistant at 978-462-2724 x7404.

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HR Prayer Shawl



We would like to drop off prayer shawls or lap blankets to anyone you know who needs comfort in our Holy Redeemer Parish family—there is no cost, it is free.

If you know of anyone, please give their name to Helen hvktax@aol.com or 978-771-4673. If you know the address that we can deliver to, maybe a favorite color, that would be helpful but not necessary. We will not intrude at this difficult time but simply leave it at their door.

HR Faith Formation

All Faith Formation schedules and registration forms are posted on our website at www.hriccatholic.org/Faith-Formation.

School Year Programs

Program information for those students entering Grades K–8 can be found on our [parish website](#). **Registration forms are also available.** As always, please contact the Faith Formation office (978-462-2724 ext. 7405) or email ajiard@newburyportcatholic.org should you have any questions.

First Reconciliation/First Eucharist

Dates have been set for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Eucharist. Please be aware that we **are not yet** accepting registrations as COVID restrictions keep us in flux. As always, please reach out to the [Faith Formation office](#) with any questions you might have.

First Reconciliation:

IC: Friday, April 30, 3:00 p.m.
Friday, May 7, 3:00 p.m.
Saturday, May 8, 11:00 a.m.
Nativity: Saturday, May 1, 11:00 a.m.

First Eucharist:

IC: Monday, June 7, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 12, 11:00 a.m.
Monday, June 14, 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, June 19, 1:00 p.m.
Nativity: Saturday, June 5, 11:00 a.m.

For those families whose child was prepared for First Eucharist last spring, but has yet to receive the sacrament, arrangements can still be made for your family. We would be happy to help you with this.

Baptism

Please call the Collaborative offices (978-462-2724) for further information regarding the celebration of the sacrament.

Confirmation

Confirmation prep classes for both Grades 9 and 10 have begun. Information regarding these sessions can be found on the Collaborative website: hriccatholic.org along with registration forms. Should you have any questions, please contact the [Faith Formation office](#).

HR St. Vincent de Paul



The St. Vincent de Paul Society is pleased to announce that Marie Pierce was elected its new president. She succeeds David Olds, who served as the Conference's first president.

Congratulations, Marie.

We have ongoing requests for help with rent and utilities. Please consider donating and making a difference. All donations are used to benefit people living in West Newbury and Merrimac. Donations can be put in the poor boxes at both churches or mail your donation. Please write checks to “HR St. Vincent de Paul” If mailing send it to HR St. Vincent de Paul, 4 Green St., Merrimac, MA 01860

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